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Remarks from Pastor Steve

From the Pastor's Heart

Spring is sprung, the grass is ris, oh what a glorious day it is! Our new baptismal is installed. We are so excited! I have set a goal of one dozen baptisms in 2016. If you missed either service Sunday, you missed a blessing! The Spirit is so present, lives are being changed. Just meet Herb Ault...baptized, born again and on fire for the Lord.

I'm concerned about our families and young children and would like to help teach them and make a difference in their young lives. On the very weekend we are beginning our first new Saturday night service with a complete offering for elementary kids and nursery, I am becoming the new 6th and 7th grade Sunday School teacher.

The class will be called "Connect" and the students will arrive in the classroom on Sundays at 9:30 am interact with some foosball or games, watch a cool video and interact with a lesson from their Pastor.

So, if you are going to be a 6th or 7th grader and show up at least 80% of the summer Sunday School classes and learn a few Bible verses we will take a day trip together to Holiday World in Santa Claus, Indiana. Totally free and wonderfully earned.

Do you know any kids going into the 6th or 7th grade? Why not invite them and their family to church.

Families Matter at FCC,
Pastor Steve

Saturday Night Service Promo

Back by popular demand are Saturday night services! The first Saturday will kick off June 4th with childcare provided and activities for K-5th graders. In order to let people know, volunteers are needed to help walk around your neighborhood hanging door hangers (no door knocking involved). This will be a full-blown event but we need YOU to help us promote this. Please call Paul Weber at 273-6565 for promotion details.



Singles @ First Ministry is open to all singles...never married, widowed or divorced. Below is the next activity:



Game Night Friday, May 6th 6-8 pm
Games in Campbell Hall and child care provided for K-5th graders.

Men's Breakfast



All Men are invited to attend the Men's Breakfast on Saturday, May 7th at 7 am. Please sign up in the narthex if you plan to attend.

Car Wash



The Haiti Mission Team will hold a Car Wash on Saturday, May 7th from 11 am—2 pm. This by donation fundraiser will be held at the KC Summers store at 2404 Lake Land Blvd.



Sunday, May 8th

Fundraiser Event

The Haiti Mission Team will hold a Nelson Catering Drive-Thru Meal Fundraiser. Each meal will cost \$10 and consist of: 1/2 baked chicken, mashed potatoes/gravy, green beans, roll, dessert and table service. All meals will be hot and ready to eat. The Fundraiser will be held on Sunday, May 15th from 11:30 am—1:30 pm by a Drive-Thru in front of the church. After 1:30 pm all unclaimed meals will be donated unless prearrangements are made. Tickets can be purchased in the narthex, church office or from any Haiti Mission Team Member.



K-5th Graders!

The Spirit wants to move us forward, covering new ground. He doesn't sulk for a return to the "good old days." He has moved on and wants to do something better, something new. That is exactly what we are doing this summer starting June 4th during our Saturday Night Service.

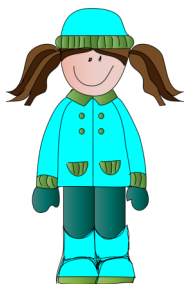


During this summer's Saturday Night Service we are going to have a full blown children's program. Our theme for the summer is *Deep Sea Discovery*. Throughout the 10 weeks of summer your kids will dive into God's word to see how He has been with His people every step of the way. Every week we will experience different hands on service projects, sea science experiments and lots of fun Bible activities for Kindergarten thru 5th grade.

I hope you and your children can make it!

If you have any questions feel free to call Stephanie Freeman anytime at the church office 234-2928.

Coats 4 Kids



With summer fast approaching please be on the look out for great deals on winter coats. We will hold our annual Coats 4 Kids drive in the fall. Please store the coats at your home until we have room for them.

News from Paul

The breeze is blowing through the window of my office (spare bedroom) and it is great to see the sun and hear the birds outside. Miss Evelyn is holding her own trying to catch up on some things around the house. Her foot is healing but she still struggles with the pain. I recently made some room in the garage so I could get the motorcycle out of the storage unit. It is amazing the stuff we had at home during our remodel. Speaking of which, the project is almost finished. Just waiting on the counter top to come in and my special coffee pot left to install. Believe me, this is a coffee pot like no other you have seen in a residential setting. When the project is done, come out for cup of Joe.

I am amazed at how many people are out jogging this time of year. I was heading to Mattoon from work the other day and saw several joggers out getting some great exercise for themselves. The problem I saw with this picture was I was heading to breakfast to eat things which are not healthy for me and I probably would have been better off jogging or something else which involved physical activity.

The landscaping sure looks great around FCC. It is nice to see the flowers in full bloom and see the leaves on the trees. It all seems to bring smiles on people's faces and cheery attitude in their hearts. A lot of great things to look forward to in the next few months for FCC and I sure hope you can be a part of it.

I hope you find the joy of Christ in your hearts this week and talk to people about what Christ has done in your life. There are a lot of people who are waiting to hear from you. Paul tells us, "Let reasonableness be known to everyone... (Phil 4:5). In other words, be reasonable as you witness and speak to people around you because, "The Lord is at hand" with us each day in the Spirit and will one day return to judge each and every one of us. I want to strive each day to be the best witness I can to bring God the glory.

Well friends I will have to go for now. Enjoy the great weather, fire up the grills, and get a little goofy once in a while. Look how good it has worked for me.

In His service,
Paul

Pecans/Cookbooks



The Deaconesses will be selling pecans for \$10 per bag and Cookbooks for \$15 a piece in the narthex between the services. Cookbooks would be great Mother's Day Gifts!

Church Life

Sunday, May 1

8:30 am Traditional Worship Service
9:30 am Sunday School
10:30 am Contemporary Worship Service
4 pm Haiti Mission Team Meeting
5-6:30 pm FROG and 5:30-7 pm ROCK Meetings

Monday, May 2

10 am Staff Meeting
5 pm Worship Committee Meeting

Tuesday, May 3

7 am Prayer Time

Wednesday, May 4

9 am "Crafts Are Us" Group
No Bell Choir Rehearsal
6 pm Line Dancing at Eagles' (open to everyone)
6 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal
6 pm 5th Graders at Skating Rink

Thursday, May 5

6 pm Praise Team Rehearsal

Friday, May 6

6 pm Singles @ First Game Night in Campbell Hall

Saturday, May 7

7 am Men's Breakfast
11 am—2 pm Haiti Mission Team Car Wash

Sunday, May 8 — Mother's Day

8:30 am Traditional Worship Service
9:30 am Sunday School
10:30 am Contemporary Worship Service
NO FROG/ROCK Meetings

Monday, May 9

No Staff Meeting
6 pm Trustees' Meeting
7 pm Church Board Meeting

Tuesday, May 10

7 am Prayer Time

Wednesday, May 11

9 am "Crafts Are Us" Group
5:15 pm Bell Choir Practice
6 pm Chancel Choir Practice

Thursday, May 12

6 pm Praise Team Rehearsal



Little Galilee Camp



Check out the Little Galilee Camp Brochure on the bulletin board across from the church office. The church will pay 1/2 of the price for one camp for any child who attends FCC.

The deadline to turn in your form and money to the office is May 26th or register on-line at:

www.littlegalilee.com

Important Dates

Below are some important dates:

Sunday, May 8th ~ Mother's Day

Sunday, May 22nd ~ Youth Sunday

Sunday, May 29th ~ One Service at 10 am
With a pork chop lunch to follow
(bring table service and a dish or two to share)

Saturday, June 4th ~ Saturday Night Church begins, 5 pm

Saturday, June 11th ~ Youth Leave for Haiti Mission Trip

Sunday, June 19th ~ Father's Day

Tuesday, July 19 ~ Leave for the Philippine Mission Trip

Tuesday, October 18th ~ Deaconess Meeting 6 pm

Tuesday, November 15th ~ All Church Thanksgiving Dinner

Saturday, December 3rd ~ Cookie Walk

Sunday, December 18th ~ Wassail Reception

Staff Meetings

Just a reminder that most Monday morning the staff meets together to organize our calendars and for prayer. Please try to not call or stop by the office on Monday mornings unless it's an emergency. We thank you in advance for your help.



FROG/ROCK News



Below is the FROG/ROCK Calendar for the rest of this school year:

Sunday, May 1st — Regular Meetings

Sunday, May 8th — No Meetings, Mother's Day

Sunday, May 15 — Last Regular Meetings

Sunday, May 22 — Youth Sunday and End of the Year Cook-Out at Fox Ridge State Park. Meet at the church at 11:30 am and return at 5 pm

- 1 Arlene Betty
- 3 Kamdyn Dunn
- 8 Jean Bergfeld
- 11 Bob Clark, Gretta Kearney, Dianne Porter
- 13 Bob Morgan, Michelle Mathews, Adeline Kimery
- 14 Sally Dickerson
- 17 Tom Dickerson
- 18 Steve Lane
- 22 Joey Dickerson
- 28 Kierstyn Albin



- 6 Fred and Kayla Grissom
- 8 Paul and Evelyn Weber
- 14 Ron and Annetta Kerans
- 27 Jack and Jan Little
- 31 Philip and Marilyn Purcell



Thank You Note

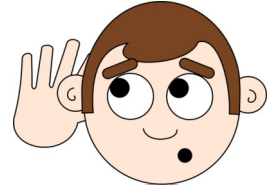
The Philippine mission team would like to thank everyone who came out last week in support of the quarter auction fundraiser at the American Legion. Thank you also to Dakota Arthur, Dawn Albin, Kierstyn Albin and Ean Freeman who helped collect quarters and put things away. The team enjoyed seeing everyone and very thankful for the support FCC has shown!



Building Fund balance:
\$225,600.30

Free Hearing Check

The Mattoon Lions Club is proud to offer the FREE Mobile Hearing Screening Unit for those individuals who may have hearing loss, partial hearing and are deaf. The mobile unit will be at the Life Span Center on Wednesday, May 4th from 9 am—1 pm.



Serving Communion

Sunday, May 1

- 8:30 am** — John Armstrong, Steve Ballinger, John Greathouse, Jim Long, Denny Booker, Jack Little, Bud Miller, Gene Swearingen
- 10:30 am** — Jeff and Amy Maninfior, Nick Maninfior, Bob Morgan

Sunday, May 8

- 8:30 am** — John Armstrong, Steve Ballinger, John Greathouse, Jim Long, Jack Browning, Tim Buford, Mike Craig, Tim Cyr
- 10:30 am** — Donica Brand, Max Betty, Chanon Fine, Dennis Goings

Church Attendance

April 17th: Traditional: 107, Contemporary: 76 = 183
April 24th: Traditional: 135, Contemporary: 74 = 209

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Permit No. 23



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MATTOON IL 61938

Return Service Requested

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Administrative Assistant: Robin Myers
Elementary Pastor: Stephanie Freeman

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